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Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D.C. 20505

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DIRECTORATE OF INTELLIGENCE

28 November 1986

West European Reactions to Syrian and Iranian Terrorist Attacks

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This report was prepared by the West European Division, Office of European  
Analysis. Questions and comments are welcome and may be addressed to [Redacted]  
[Redacted] Chief, West European Division [Redacted]

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UNITED KINGDOM

SYRIA

17 April 1986 London: El Al Bomb Attempt

UK Action: Government broke diplomatic relations with Syria following Hindawi conviction. At British request, EC members (excluding Greece) agreed to halt new arms sales to Syria, suspend high level diplomatic contacts with Damascus, make individual demarches against Syrian support for terrorism, and monitor Syrian travellers to Western Europe.

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IRAN

19 August 1985 Video Bombing

UK Action: Government seemed disposed to regard incident as more personal vendetta than politically inspired terrorism. Publicly warned of retaliation against Middle East terrorism brought to Britian.

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**FRANCE - BENELUX****IRAN****Sept - Oct Unifil Attacks****Lebanon**

France called for an emergency session of the UN Security Council, which adopted French-sponsored draft in October that called on Israel to withdraw its forces from Lebanon and allow UNIFIL to deploy to the Israeli-Lebanese border. French troops will be replaced by Swedish troop this month, drawing French contingent down from about 1,400 men to 520. [REDACTED]

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**8 March Antenne-2 Team's Kidnapping****Lebanon**

France continued its efforts to secure the release of hostages held in Lebanon, primarily by working to normalize relations with Iran. Paris expelled Iranian opposition leader

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Rajavi on 7 June, and on 20 June Hizballah  
released two of the television crew members.

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**TURKEY**

-- Synagogue attack

Turkish Council of Ministries condemned attack and  
called for the "world's countries to act in  
unison against terrorism." No other action  
taken.

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-- no action taken by Turkey against Iran with respect to  
the 2 murders of pro-Shah officers in Turkey  
in Oct 1986 and Dec 1985.

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## AUSTRIA

Syria

27 December 1985 - Attack at Schwechat Airport in Vienna

At the conclusion of a series of meetings with other European states, Austria agreed on 3 March 1986 to:

- increase cooperation between Italian and Austrian anti-terrorist units, build comprehensive security net, and to foster greater exchange of information between Italy-Austria anti-terrorist units.

Austria and Yugoslavia also agreed to improve the exchange of information between the countries' police and security authorities. [REDACTED]

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## WEST GERMANY

29 March 1986 - Bombing of German-Arab at Friendship Union in Berlin

On Wednesday a West German court found two Palestinians guilty in the bombing of the West Berlin club and directly implicated Syrian officials. The following measures were taken on 27 November 1986:

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- Bonn will not replace the recalled FRG Ambassador to Syria in foreseeable future;
- three Syrian diplomats have been asked to leave;
- Syrian military attache's office in Bonn will be reduced from four to two members;
- Syrian service passports will no longer be honored by the FRG;
- No new development assistance will be given;
- Bonn will talk with the GDR regarding the involvement of Syrian institutions in East Berlin in terrorist acts in West Berlin; and

Bonn will discuss with the French, UK, and US questions which fall under competence of the Allies in monitoring the security situation in West Berlin.

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ITALY

Syria

27 December 1985 - Attack of Vienna Airport

Rome gradually toughened Italian counterterrorism measures including recently announced program for x-raying diplomatic baggage, but is unlikely to take strong action against Damascus even if Syrian complicity eventually confirmed at a trial.

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**SUBJECT: West European Reactions to Syrian and Iranian  
Terrorist Attacks**

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